[Shri Kamalendu Bhattarcharjee]

like the District Congress President and President of the UMF, one of the major political parties in Assam, have been murdered and police has been resorting to firing in many places even against the student demonstrators. Madam, the AGP student leaders, though they befooled many of the all India parties saying that they were the true disciples of Mahatma Gandhi believing in non-violence, since taking over, they have been throttling the voice of democracy. Even a General Secretary of the Assam Pradesh Congress has also been murdered.

Madam, All Assam Students' Union, Assam Gana Parishad and some other interested parlies used to accuse the Congress(I) Governments in the State alleging that there were police atrocities during the Congress (I) rule. Impression is given that the police excesses were committed during the Congress regime and particularly the period of Saikia is termed as the period of police excesses. But during the period of Hiteswar Saikia, there were only three police firings during 33 months with nine deaths while uptill now there were 28 police firings during the last 23-months rule of AGP with 12 deaths. The period covers from 1. 1. 1986 to 14. 11. 1987. Actually, since 1946 to 1985, during the period of the Congress regime, there were 15 police firings and this period will be about 37 years while there were 28 police firings during the last 23 months of AGP regime. During the period of G. N. Bordoloi, there was one police firing with one death. During the period of B. Medhi, there was no police firing. During the; period of B. P. Chaliha, there were 4 police firings with 14 deaths. There 'vas no police firing during the period of M. M. Chowdhury. There were 7 polio; firings with six deaths during the period of Sarat Chandra Sinha. During the peiriods of Mrs. Taimur and K. Gogoi, there were no police firings. During th<s period of Hiteswar Saikia, there were 3 police firings with 9 deaths.

It is interesling to note, Madam Deputy Chairman, that not a single student died in police firing during the regime of Hiteswar Saikia while out of the 12 died in police firings during the AGP rule, who were championing the cause of the students, three were students. In addition to this, there were six bank dacoities which never happened during the Congrcss(I) rule. There were 12 political murders during the last 22 months while, there were no political murder during the regime of Saikia. The total number of students killed during the Congress (I) regime by police firings were only three. But I have already pointed out what has happened during the AGP misrule. So, Madam, I would seek the intervention of the Centre just to pressurise the State Government. I would say that all these political murders, where an ex-Minister has been killed, where an ex-Minister's son has been killed, where the leader of a major political party of the nation has been killed, where a DCC President and important opponents have been killed, this method of liquidating Y political opponents is posing a great threat to the democracy. I want that there should be a CBI inquiry in all these political murders and true culprits should be booked. Otherwise, the law and order situation in Assam is deteriorating every day and this scenario is really very bad and it is not good and congenial to the healthy functioning of democracy. So, I would request that the Centre should pressurise the State Government so that all these cases of political murders are handed over to the CBI and the true cul- ^-prits are found out.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN; Yes. Smt. Surya Kanta Patil—absent. Yes, Mr.

V. M. Jadhav.

Delay in the completion of certain Railway projects in Marathwada region of Maharashtra affecting its development

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV (Maharashtra); Madam Deputy Chairman, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to make a special mention on a very important issue of our region, that is about the railways. My special mention is regarding the delaying work of Manmad-Parbhani-Purli metre-gauge to broad gauge conversion

project and Adilabad-Parbhani conversion project of the railways which is causing a great setback to the development of the Marathwada region of the Maharashtra State.

Madam, you are aware of the fact that there was a demand from the Marathwada region for the conversion project of this line for the last 35 to 40 years. Ultimately in 1980 this work has been started. But with the delay the escalated cost of thi$_s$ project has gone up. Formerly, the escalation cost was just about Rs. 29 crores. Now it has been answered by the Hon. Railway Minister that the cost has gone up by R, 50 crores. So, they have taken up the Manmad-Parbhani-Purli conversion project and they have split this project in two parts. Actually, our demand was for conversion of Manmad-Adilabad line. Later on when we insisted with the Ministry, then they have sanctioned Adi labad to Parbhani in two phases. In the first phase on the Manmad-Parbhani-Purli they have started the work from anmad to Aurangabad. For that work tie total money required was Rs. 15 crores. Now the escalated cost has gone up and the total requirement has come up to Rs. 25 crores. Till today, right from 1980 to 1987, the Government of India has spent Rs. 13, 5 crores. In the last year's budget they have made a provision for another Rs. 3 crores, but later on they have increased it only by Rs 1 crore more. So it has come to Rs. 14. 5 crores.

Madam, we were interested that at least the first phase, the first half portion of the first-phase which they have undertaken from Manmad to Aurangabad, it must be completed by the end of December, 1988 and for that purpose till today the Railway Ministry has spent about Rs. 13. 5 crores and if they spend Rs. 10 crores more then that work will be completed.

Madam, you might be aware of the fact that Aurangabad is one of the fast growing urban centres in the whole of Asia. Though the industrial growth is artificial, industrialists from other parts of the country are setting up industries there and industries are coming up there. Bilt ther$_e$ is no rail link. So, Madam, I wouid request, through you, the hon. Raiiway Minister, please make a provision for Rs. 10 crores or whatever amo unt is required and complete this first phase from Manmad to Aurangabad by the end of December, 1988. Please make this provision in the budget of 1988-89. The second phase of the same project, Adilabad to Parbhani, for the last five years this project is sanctioned and thsy Ere making a provision of Rs. 50, 000 or one lakh, or so. The total cost of that project is Rs. 80 crores and for a project of Rs. 80 crores, a provision of Rs. 50, 000 or one lakh has been made, and you can understand how much time it will take for the completion of the project and how much delay will be caused. So, I would request the hon. Railway Minister, through you, that in the coming year's budget at least make a provision of Rs. 5 crores. The cost of the project would also have gone up from Rs. 80 crores to something like Rs. 125 crores by now. So, I would request the hon. Minister, please do not make $_a$ joke of the feelings of the Marathwada people and make a good provision of the amount and lust you give us an assurance that this work will be completed within a record time and from that point of view complete it within a period of one year or one year and three months, this Manmad to Aurangabad line.

I would also like to say one more point. Madam, you are also aware that Mirag-Latur Railway comes from Pandharpur. It is a very important Hindu temple, not only for people of Maharashtra but for people all over the country. There is a demand that this Miraj-Latur narrow-gauge line should be converted into broad-gauge line. Apart from that, Latur Road and Latur have got to be connected by a railway line. Madam, Latus- Road i' situated on the main broad-puage line. Latur Road i-s also the native place of our Minister who is sitting here. Between Latur Road and Latur. there is a distance of just 30 kilometres. It would be of great help to people there if Latur Road could be connected with Latur, which is one

[Shri Vithalrao Madhavrao Jadhav] of the biggest industrial centres of Marathwada region. It will be very convenient for industry, trade and commerce and also agriculture. It is a distance of only 30 kilometres and is not likely to cost much, and this work can be completed within a year. I request, through you, the hon. Railway Minister to have a survey conducted for this project of 30 km. of railway line between Lature Road and Latur, as early as possible, so that Latur is connected and is linked with the mainstream of national life. With these observations, I thank you for giving me this opportunity.

डा० बापू काल्दाते (महाराष्ट्र) : मैं इनके साथ हूं और मुझे बिल्कुल विश्वास है कि मन ही मन में राज्य मंत्री जी भी हम लोगों के साथ हैं। मैं इतना ही कहूंगा कि यह मामला गये पन्द्रह सालों से चल रहा है और जिसके कारण वहां की जनता के मन में जो भावनायें हैं, उसको जो इस ढंग से आपके सामने रखा है, हम यह चाहते हैं कि आप स्वयं इसमें पहल करें और रेल मंत्रालय से कहें कि पन्द्रह सालों से पड़ा हुआ मामला जरा तुरन्त करने का प्रयास करें।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (मध्यप्रदेश): महोदय, मन ही मन से नहीं, वह सिर भी हिला रहे हैं।

Amendment adopted by US House of Representatives on Punjab in the foreignaid authorisation bill

SHRI ANAND SHARMA (Himachal Pradesh): Madam, Deputy Chairman, I am making this special mention to draw the attention of this House towards some j serious moves against India which have been repeatedly carried out in the U S. House of Representatives in recent past.

Madan], about ten days 'ago, there was an amendment moved in the House of Representatives of America, to the U. S. Foreign Aid Authorisation Bill, equating ' India with Pakistan 'as far as the nuclear programme i_s concerned, and demanding some guarantees from India, in spite of the fact, that it was common knowledge that Pakistan's nuclear programme is a weapon-oriented one whereas India's nuclear programme is for peaceful pur poses. This was deliberately done to bring pressure on India. Those who were behind it were aware that there were serious reservations within the U. S. Administration on Pakistan's clandestine weapon^ programme and the manner in which, their citizens have been caught stealing material which could be used for making th. se weapons. This was also done as a tactical diversion, and that is what I want to ' mention. While doing that, later when some friends of India, some pro-India U. S. Senators and mem bers of the House argued against equat ing India with Pakistan on these grounds, while dropping the amendment, they squeezed, through 4. 02 billion dollars aid for Pakistan in spite of the fact that, that country had not given any guarantee. What happened after that i_s much more serious. While passing this Foerign Aid Authorisation Bill, the House of Representatives has adopted an amendment, urging the Government of Tndia to open Golden Temple in Amritsar fcr worship, urging the Government of India to respect human rights in Punjab. This, has dangerous potrents. This is also gross interference in the internal affairs of India. Since the House of Representatives has done it, T will request 'all my colleagues to join me in condemning this anti-India move. We should make i't clear that the Golden Temple is open for worship, that we have human rights in India in-cluding the Punjab and that we have more respect for human rights than anybody else. *(Interruptions)*. Therefore, Ma-i'am, I would urge upon the Government of Tndia tc take up this matter with the U. S. Administration and respect outrightly the aid with this rider, the rider which was put in along with this amendment. T also want the feelmas of this House to be conveyed to the chairman of U. S. House of Representatives and to the President of U. S. A. so that this amendment dropped and in future no anti-India moves are officially made in the House of Representatives. Thank yon. Madam.